

STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



July 29, 2008

MARTIN O'MALLEY
GOVERNOR

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TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY

Honorable Michael Knapp, President
Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Re: ZTA 08-15; SRA 08-03

Dear Council President Knapp:

I am writing to express my support for ZTA 08-15 and SRA 08-03. These provisions are critical components of our ongoing, collaborative efforts to continue the revitalization of downtown Silver Spring. The renaissance of downtown Silver Spring has been remarkable, and is a product of strong governmental leadership, critical public-private partnerships, and active community engagement. While outstanding progress has been made, considerable work lies ahead, especially in areas west of Colesville Road.

The construction of a live music venue in downtown Silver Spring would be a lynchpin in the next chapter of Silver Spring revitalization. As a result, working with County Executive Ike Leggett and the Montgomery County delegation, I provided \$4,000,000.00 in the State's capital budget to be matched by \$4,000,000.00 in county funds towards construction of a new live music venue in Silver Spring.

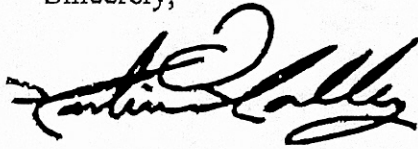
As you know, the State's \$4,000,000.00 capital contribution was approved by the Maryland General Assembly during the 2007 and 2008 State Legislature Sessions. County Executive Leggett, your legislative team in Annapolis, and the Montgomery County delegation worked tirelessly to ensure that these funds remained in the budget. The State funds are contingent upon the county's adoption of the requisite zoning text amendments. These provisions are before the County Council in the form of ZTA 08-15 and SRA 08-03.

I continue to strongly support the Downtown Silver Spring Music Hall and I urge you to adopt this legislation. I am convinced that there will be a prompt and robust return on investment for the State, county, and the businesses in downtown Silver Spring, not to mention the community. I am confident that this concert venue will catalyze additional positive development on the west side of Colesville Road.

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The State has stepped forward with funding for this project; I urge the County Council to pass
ZTA 08-15 and SRA 08-03.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin Lally". The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial "M" and a long, sweeping underline.

Governor